



WORKING TOGETHER TO SERVE

It's Time for More Fun in the Sun

Long Beach, blessed with a Mediterranean climate and a miles-long waterfront, is an ideal playground year-round, and even more so in the summer. When school is out, the City's award-winning Department of Parks, Recreation & Marine kicks into highest gear, delivering a full range of events, activities and programs that focus on youth and families.

To whet your appetite—

- The popular International Sea Festival, July 17-August 24, will feature 17 events including a Chinese Dragon Boat Race, the Great Sand Sculpture Contest, a Fishing Rodeo just for kids, plus plenty of races, regattas and tournaments for all ages.
- Municipal Band concerts remain a sure hit for summer evenings. The series runs during July and August.
- Visit beautiful Rancho Los Cerritos for "Mud Mania" (a celebration of adobe) on August 15.
- Check out the Super Science Series at El Dorado Nature Center, where kids explore flora and fauna.
- Learn to swim, sail or row—and, if you'd rather stay on dry land, learn to make and sail model boats.

The full range of park programs, day camps, experiential learning activities, sports and fitness classes is listed in a catalog (mailed quarterly to each household but also available at parks and libraries).



Long Beach native Bert Srack is Acting Manager of the Community Recreation Services Bureau, Department of Parks, Recreation & Marine. She has served the City of Long Beach for 36 years.

Log on to the user-friendly website, www.lbparks.org, or call 562-570-3100.



Terry L. Harbour, (1) Fire Chief, has resided in Long Beach for 57 years. He is a 33-year City employee. Anthony W. Batts, Chief of Police, is a 22-year City employee. He has been a Long Beach resident for 24 years.

Let's Have a Safe Independence Day

Do you ever wonder why no fireworks are for sale in Long Beach? It's because they're illegal. You simply cannot buy, sell, possess, store or use fireworks, including sparklers, within city limits. The ordinance prohibiting fireworks has been on record for 40 years and most Long Beach citizens support it.

This year, as we celebrate our nation's independence on July 4, Long Beach's public safety personnel are more determined than ever to protect our residents and their property from harm by enforcing the ban. Police Chief Batts and Fire Chief Harbour personally ask for your cooperation.

Nationwide, thousands of people—nearly half of them children—are treated in hospitals for serious injuries on this date each year. Blindness and permanent disfigurement are not uncommon. What's more, on a typical July 4, fireworks cause more fires than all other causes combined.

The Long Beach Police Department will strictly enforce the ban on fireworks this year. The beaches will be patrolled heavily. If you are found using any type of fireworks, you can be arrested and fined \$1,000, sentenced to jail up to six months, or both.

Please don't take dangerous risks as you celebrate our nation's birthday. Check the newspaper for professional fireworks displays. They're spectacular and safe!



Steven Nakauchi, Registered Environmental Health Specialist, Bureau of Environmental Health, Department of Health and Human Services, is a 15-year City employee.

Beach Water Quality Continuously Monitored

If you are among the more than 50,000 swimmers who enjoy Long Beach's beaches, bays and lagoons each summer weekend, you can rest assured that the City's environmental health specialists are monitoring the waters for signs of pollution. Water samples are taken at more than 23 sites on a weekly basis. If bacteria levels exceed State standards, staff will issue advisories, post signs and may close the beach until they are satisfied that risks no longer exist.

You can tap into testing results either by calling a 24-hour hotline, logging on, or having a chat with a friendly lifeguard.

Water Quality Results Hotline: Call 562-570-4199 or log on to www.longbeach.gov/health/water_quality.html.

Need help? Check out these resources — Neighborhood Watch 562-570-7229 • Code Enforcement 562-570-6421
• Pothole Patrol 562-570-2700 • Special Refuse Pickup 562-570-2876 • City Web Site www.longbeach.gov